

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A dental hygiene holding apparatus in which dental appliances, oral hygiene devices or dental brushes may be sterilized in a sterilization bath and stored in said apparatus comprising:

a vase type container having a flat lower surface and an upper opening large enough to receive said dental appliances or oral hygiene devices therethrough;

a sterilization bath container for holding said sterilization bath therein removably suspended in said upper opening;

a generally horizontal extension between said upper opening of said vase type container and said sterilization bath container, said generally horizontal extension having holes therein for suspension of said dental appliances, oral hygiene devices or dental brushes after sterilization in said sterilization bath; and

a lid for simultaneously (a) sealing said sterilization bath in said sterilization bath container, (b) covering said dental appliances, oral hygiene devices or dental brushes as suspended in said holes, and (c) allowing fresh air to said dental appliances, oral hygiene devices or dental brushes.

1        2.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 1 further includes a  
2        dental appliance/oral hygiene storage unit inside said vase type container, said  
3        dental appliance/oral hygiene storage unit being removable through said upper  
4        opening.

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6        3.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said  
7        generally horizontal extension extends from said sterilization bath container over said  
8        upper opening.

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10       4.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 3 wherein an upper  
11       rim of said sterilization bath container holds said lid above said vase type container  
12       thereby allowing said fresh air to said dental appliances, oral hygiene devices or  
13       dental brushes.

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15       5.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 4 wherein said vase  
16       type container has a supporting ledge below said upper opening, said generally  
17       horizontal extension resting on an upper side of said supporting ledge.

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19       6.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein said vase  
20       type container and said lid are formed from hand blown glass.

1        7.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 6 wherein said lid has  
2        a gripping portion formed therewith and being a part thereof.

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4        8.    The dental hygiene holding apparatus as recited in claim 7 wherein said lid has  
5        a downward flange therearound to cover said dental appliance, oral hygiene device or  
6        dental brush and still allow said fresh air thereto.